Assistance to Karnataka

2442. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Karnataka Government has sent any proposal seeking financial assistance for expansion of M/s Mysore Paper Mills, Sugar Mills and for setting up of co-generation and distillery unit;

(b) whether the financial assistance has been sought under the Sugar Development Fund;

(c) the amount of financial assistance sought for; and

(d) the present status of the above proposal?

THE MINISTER OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. Government of Karnataka submitted a proposal in December, 2004 for loan from Sugar Development Fund (SDF) for capacity expansion, bagasse based co-generation power project and setting up of a distillery, for their paper factory located at Papeer Town—Bhadravathi, Shimoga District, Karnataka. Since the proposal was not complete and all required documents were not submitted with the proposal, the Government of Karnataka was requested in January, 2005 to furnish the same.

A revised proposal for loan of Rs. 42 crores for capacity expansion and bagasse based cogeneration power project has been received in this Department on 2.12.2005 which is still not complete. The Government of Karnataka has again been requested to furnish the requisite documents at the earliest.

Paddy Procurement Target

†2443. SHRI SHATRUGHAN SINHA: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) the target fixed for purchase of paddy in Bihar during the current kharif marketing season;

(b) the number of purchase counters set up in the state by Food Corporation of India (FCI) to achieve this target; and

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.